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THE OPI REPORT

Office of Public Instruction
Ed Argenbright, Superintendent
State Capitol
Helena, MT 59620

JUNE 1986

Montana State Library
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Board Supports Student Involvement in School Governance

In 1985 the legislature passed House Joint Resolution 26, urging the trustees of each school district to appoint a nonvoting student to represent the school student body. In response to the resolution, the State Board of Public Education issued the following statement to all districts:

Student Representation

The board believes that the active involvement of students in their education, including educational planning and evaluation and the fostering of a spirit of inquiry whereby students may freely express their views and listen to and evaluate the opinions of others, are two factors which are essential to the creation of the stimulating learning environment. Students may bring different types of information and opinions, which may not have been heard regularly in the past. Very often members of the school community are unaware of student reactions to developments in their schools. Conversely, governance decisions which concern students may not reach them, and misunderstandings sometimes result.

The board considers the following criteria important in the selection of student advisors and states them here for consideration at the local level:

1. An interest in and understanding of the governance of education.
2. The ability to communicate with peers and perceive student needs and perspectives.
3. The ability to represent student perspectives responsibly in an adult setting.
4. The ability to contribute the necessary time to attend meetings, review background materials and prepare for possible presentations.
5. A record of leadership qualities.

Roundup Student is Montana's Emissary to Liberty Celebration

Mick Wollman, an 8th grader at Flatwillow Colony School 25 miles north of Roundup, is the winner of the Statue of Liberty student essay contest. Wollman, 13, and his teacher Eli Stahl, Jr., will represent Montana at the reopening celebration of the Statue of Liberty in New York in July.

Wollman's name was drawn from the many Montana students who submitted essays on the theme, "Our Statue: Teacher of Liberty." One student among the states' winners will be selected to read his or her essay before a national television audience.

Administrators Workshop

The Office of Public Instruction will present a summer workshop to inform and update administrators in topics and issues that affect their schools. The workshop will be held June 23-25 at MSU in Bozeman in conjunction with the School Administrators of Montana conference (June 26-27). New school administrators are encouraged to attend.

There is no charge for the workshop or materials. Campus dining and dormitory facilities are available by arrangement in advance.

For registration information, contact Ray Shackleford, Office of Public Instruction, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620 (444-3169).

Education Association Sponsors Dropout Prevention Guide

The National Education Association, through its local and state chapters, is sponsoring Operation Rescue, a grant program for dropout and illiteracy prevention. Over the next two years, Operation Rescue will provide $700,000 to local associations across the country.

NEA's Foundation for the Improvement of Education is organizing the program, and the Montana Education Association is promoting it in all Montana districts with 25 percent or more native American student population.

For guidelines and applications for the next round of grants, local chapters may write to the National Foundation for the Improvement of Education, National Education Association, 1201 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036. Tom Bilodeau at the Montana Education Association can answer inquiries about the program (442-4250).

Search for Centenarians

The Montana Statehood Centennial Office is asking Montana citizens to submit the names of Montanans who will be 100 years old or more in 1989, the state's 100th birthday. The centenarians will be honored as part of the Montana Centennial activities.

As a part of this effort, OPI is coordinating a student "oral history" project. We will be asking schools to appoint a teacher to coordinate the project for the school; the teacher will select a high school student to interview centenarians in that community. If you are interested in the project, contact Marilyn Miller at 444-3656.

Montanans Among "Executive Educator 100"

Two Montana school administrators were named in the "Executive Educator 100" list for 1986, which honors dedicated education leaders in schools with 2,500 or fewer students.

Tom Thompson, Superintendent of Browning Public Schools and a member of the State Board of Public Education, and Harold K. Tokerud, Superintendent of Colstrip Public Schools, were Montana's "big stars from the little school systems," the *Executive Educator* announcement said.

Programs Clarify Copyright Guidelines

School personnel are often confused about what their district can legally videotape from various types of broadcasts, how long a tape may be kept, uses of rental tapes, etc. To help clarify these important issues, the OPI Audiovisual Library has two videocassettes explaining copyright guidelines for off-air, cable and commercial videotaping for educational uses. The videos are available on a rental basis. Contact your school district film coordinator or the OPI AV Library, 442-3170.

New "Reading Rainbow" Series Airs This Month

Starting June 23, the Public Broadcasting Service will air 10 new *Reading Rainbow* programs daily at 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. The series is designed to encourage children to read, build positive self-concepts and use school and public libraries.

Schools with a cable TV subscription may tape the new series. The tapes may not be duplicated or used by any other school or library unless rights are purchased from Great Plains National Instructional Television Library. Schools may use the tapes as long as they follow an erasure schedule available from Steve Lenzen at GPN (1-800-228-4630) or Margy Rolando at OPI (444-2979).

Flag Day Celebration

The 7th Annual "Pause for the Pledge" of Allegiance, coordinated by a televised National Flag Day Ceremony at Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland, will be held on June 14, at 4 p.m. Mountain time. The event inspires a pause to reaffirm American patriotism in a nationwide salute to the flag.

Dates to Remember

June 9-10	Board of Public Education Helena (444-6576)
June 10-12	Conference on Sex Abuse of Children, Adolescents and Adults EMC, Billings (657-2349)
June 23-25	Current Topics in School Administration Bozeman (OPI, 444-3169)
June 26-27	School Administrators of Montana Bozeman (442-2510)
June 26	MT Assoc. for Pupil Transportation Conference Great Falls (444-4396)

Missing Children Information

The following is the State Department of Justice's most current list of missing Montana children and teenagers (17 years and under). For details on the Missing Children Program, call Bill Erwin, Department of Justice, Helena (444-3625).

NAME	RACE	SEX	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	DATE OF BIRTH	AGE	HAIR	EYE	CITY
Antoine, Theresa	I	F	5'4"	130	061070	15	BLK	BRO	Polson SO
Boring, Stacy	W	F	5'5"	115	082568	17	BLK	BRO	Libby SO
Klistoff, Joanna	W	F	5'2"	100	112172	13	BRO	BRO	Polson SO
Marshall, Nyleen K.	W	F	3'2"	29	091878	7	BRO	BLU	Jefferson Co. SO
Strutzel, Michael J.	W	M	3'0"	30	120481	4	BLN	BLU	Butte/Silver Bow
Swartz, Wm. Jr.	W	M	4'0"	80	100474	11	BLN	GRN	Cascade SO
Veale, Ryan Lynn	W	M	4'8"	95	061471	14	BRO	BLU	Balfour, B.C.

PD = Police Department
SO = Sheriff's Office

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Toll free education hot line
1-800-332-3402